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Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:06 PM
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Cc: Abdi, Fuad (MCM); Unfried, Christa (SOLGEN)
Subject: Strategic Update - 2022-01-31 1600 hours

STRATEGIC UPDATES FOR DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL

The information in this report is current to 2022-01-31 at 1600 hours.

Opposition to Public Health Measures

- Two potential protests have been identified at school-based clinics for children aged 5-11. Beaverton Public School and Thorah Central Public School are hosting clinics from 1300-1900 today in Durham Region. Police of jurisdiction have been notified and onsite security is deployed.
- Two Oxford County schools reported that school administrators had received pseudo-legal notices in regards to their vaccine administration clinics. London District Catholic School Board and Thames Valley District School board were advised by their local PHU to notify police of the activity.

ASSESSMENT

Currently, there is no specific, identified threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among participants in or supporters of opposition activities.

Freedom Convoy 2022

- Current crowds in Ottawa are being reported as minimal. Ottawa Police Service estimates that approximately 1,000 trucks remain within the city. A stage has been erected on the rear of a truck and speeches are ongoing. The convoy has yet to establish an end time to protest activity.
- Traffic issues persist in Downtown Ottawa. Alexandra, Portage (southbound) (to Ottawa) and Chaudiere (southbound) (to Ottawa) interprovincial bridges are closed. Ottawa Police Service is not permitting trucks to re-enter the city after leaving.
- The National Capital Region Command Centre (NRCCC) has reported that the crowd appears more aggressive and confrontational with police compared to previous days. Police resources continue to address occasional flashpoints and aggression.
- The Ottawa Police Service has advised that a tractor truck rammed a stationary police vehicle this morning near Parliament Hill. OPS has confirmed that there are no injuries. The event is believed to be an intentional act; the suspect is involved in the Quebec convoy and was

reportedly upset at being denied access into city streets. The suspect eventually exited the vehicle and OPS moved them to another location in order to continue their investigation.

- The GoFundMe account supporting the Freedom Convoy has increased to \$9.2 million. The “ADOPT A TRUCKER” fundraiser has raised almost \$121,000.

ASSESSMENT

At this juncture, there is no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy and Operation BearHug 2.0 protest activity. However, the possibility that a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a physical threat with little or no warning cannot be excluded.

The convoys and rally on Parliament Hill over the weekend did not materialize into a significant public safety threat or major incident beyond traffic management issues. Reported incidents of harassment and vandalism garnered significant media attention over the weekend and have drawn condemnation from public figures within and outside the trucking community. Police of jurisdiction are investigating instances where criminal harassment, trespass or vandalism are believed to have occurred.

Organizers have indicated they are planning to continue demonstrating, including with potential disruptions that may gridlock areas around Parliament buildings and parts of Ottawa with no expressed departure date for participants or a clear timing when actions may end. However, reporting indicates that crowd numbers have significantly dwindled from their peak on Saturday and the ability of the group to materially disrupt traffic may subsequently be more limited. Inclement weather anticipated in the coming days may also further suppress crowd size and activity.

Information shared through social media has indicated some convoy participants and supporters may continue to attempt to disrupt the business of government by holding events at or near City Halls, Provincial government facilities, offices and/or properties. Public Health Units, mainstream media outlets, and law enforcement facilities may also become vulnerable to protest activities consistent with ongoing anti-mandate and anti-government organizing.

Convoy organizers have repeatedly stated the intention to conduct a lawful protest and have advised participants to sign a Code of Conduct articulating the appropriate behaviour for the convoy and protest. However, available information suggests that some elements within the convoy, or supporting the convoy, could engage in actions that pose a public safety threat. Convoy organizers will almost certainly have limited ability to influence or control the behaviour of some convoy participants and protest attendees.

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